

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 11, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 30, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 226

Introduced by Assembly Member Bermudez

February 3, 2005

An act to add Article 10 (commencing with Section 9889.25) to Chapter 20.3 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to automotive technology education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 226, as amended, Bermudez. Automotive technology education.

Existing law, the Automotive Repair Act, establishes the Bureau of Automotive Repair within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Under existing law, the bureau's chief, who is responsible to the Director of Consumer Affairs, administers the act, and automotive repair dealers are required to register with the director. The act creates the Vehicle Inspection and Repair Fund where all fees and revenue collected under the act's provisions are deposited. The act makes the revenue in the fund available for expenditure by the department upon appropriation by the Legislature.

This bill would create the Automotive Career and Technical Education Account in the fund. The bill would make the funds in the account available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the bureau and would authorize it to award grants to a public secondary educational institution *or community college* for automotive technology education. The bill would require the bureau to work with

an advisory committee in making these awards. The bill would require a local school district of the secondary educational institution *or a community college district* receiving a grant to provide equal matching funds. The bill would require each grant recipient to report to the bureau and would also require the bureau to report to the Legislature on the grant program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the
2 following:
- 3 (1) According to the Employment Development Department
4 and the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, a demand and
5 increasing need exist for an adequate supply of automotive
6 technicians trained and skilled to provide competent services to
7 the motoring public.
- 8 (2) Both the California Department of Consumer Affairs'
9 Bureau of Automotive Repair and the National Association of
10 Attorneys General have found, in separate reviews, that the
11 availability of competent and skilled technicians is essential to
12 consumer protection.
- 13 (3) According to the United States Environmental Protection
14 Agency, the availability of competent and skilled technicians
15 who are properly trained to diagnose and repair vehicle emissions
16 systems is essential to the reduction of harmful emissions from
17 light and heavy duty vehicles.
- 18 (4) Although automotive training programs exist in California
19 public schools, the number of courses available to students has
20 been significantly reduced since 1980. The automotive training
21 programs in high schools are currently in desperate need of
22 funding and support in order to provide the necessary exposure
23 and training to a sufficient number of students to meet the needs
24 of consumers and for air quality improvement.
- 25 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that proactive steps be
26 taken to protect both California consumers and the state's air
27 quality from the effects of a prolonged shortage of competent
28 automotive technicians by providing resources from the Vehicle

1 Inspection and Repair Fund to help support our public schools in
2 their efforts to provide qualified automotive training programs.

3 SEC. 2. Article 10 (commencing with Section 9889.25) is
4 added to Chapter 20.3 of Division 3 of the Business and
5 Professions Code, to read:

6
7 Article 10. Automotive Career and Technical Education
8

9 9889.25. This article shall be known and may be cited as the
10 Automotive Career and Technical Education Act of 2005.

11 9889.26. (a) The Automotive Career and Technical
12 Education Account is hereby created as a separate account in the
13 Vehicle Inspection and Repair Fund, and it shall be known as the
14 account for the purposes of this article. Funds in the account shall
15 be available for the purposes of this article upon appropriation by
16 the Legislature. *The bureau shall 10 percent of the Vehicle*
17 *Inspection and Repair Fund operating reserves into the account*
18 *annually.* The bureau may, upon appropriation, allocate a
19 maximum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) annually from the
20 account for the administration of the provisions of this article.

21 (b) The bureau may accept grants from federal, state, or local
22 public agencies, or from private foundations or individuals, in
23 order to assist it in carrying out its duties, functions, and powers
24 under this article. The bureau shall deposit all grant moneys into
25 the account.

26 9889.27. ~~(a) The bureau may award grants from the account~~
27 ~~to qualified public secondary educational institutions and~~
28 ~~community colleges for the support of courses of study in~~
29 ~~automotive technology. The grants shall be made only to a~~
30 ~~secondary educational institution or community college providing~~
31 ~~practical experience in automotive technology. The total amount~~
32 ~~of a grant that may be awarded to a single secondary educational~~
33 ~~institution or community college shall not exceed an amount~~
34 ~~equal to 25 percent of the total funds available under this article.~~

35 ~~(b) An organization of automotive repair dealers or an~~
36 ~~organization of automotive repair dealer organizations~~
37 ~~incorporated under Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000)~~
38 ~~of the Corporations Code, may request that the bureau award~~
39 ~~grants pursuant to subdivision (a) directly to a qualified public~~
40 ~~secondary educational institution of its choice.~~

1 9889.28. (a) The bureau shall ~~either establish or~~ use an
2 existing advisory committee for the purposes of making
3 recommendations on grant awards. ~~An~~ This advisory committee
4 ~~established under this article~~ shall consist of a minimum of 11
5 members, with at least one representative from each of the
6 following entities:

- 7 (1) The Automotive Repair Coalition.
8 (2) The Automotive Service Councils of California.
9 (3) The Automotive Trade Organizations of California.
10 (4) The California Autobody Association.
11 (5) The California AAMCO Dealers Association.
12 (6) The California Motor Car Dealers Association.
13 (7) The California Service Station and Automotive Repair
14 Association.

- 15 (8) The Coalition for Clean Air.
16 (9) The Consumers Federation of California.

- 17 ~~(b)~~
18 *(10) The California Automotive Teachers.*

19 *(b) For purposes of implementing this article, the advisory*
20 *committee shall also include at least one representative from the*
21 *Department of Education and one representative from the*
22 *Association of California School Administrators.*

23 *(c) The advisory committee shall make recommendations to*
24 *the chief for the use of funds in the account to assist in*
25 *maintaining and increasing the quality and availability of*
26 *automotive education programs technicians to serve consumers.*
27 *The primary focus of those recommendations is to provide*
28 *financial resources, which are currently unavailable, to*
29 *automotive education programs in California, to maintain and*
30 *upgrade facilities and equipment, and to* ~~obtain~~ *assist in the*
31 *accreditation of those programs.*

- 32 ~~(e)~~
33 *(d) The advisory committee shall perform all of the following*
34 *duties:*

35 *(1) Confirm the qualifications of a program of an applicant*
36 *secondary educational institution or community college.*

37 *(2) If the account has insufficient funds to award the total*
38 *amount of the grant sought by an applicant, recommend to the*
39 *bureau a lesser grant amount.* ~~amount of the grants sought by~~

1 *applicants, ensure that grant applications recommended for*
2 *approval meet the following criteria:*

- 3 *(A) Are geographically diverse.*
- 4 *(B) Are representative of schools of different sizes.*
- 5 *(C) Are representative of schools of different API scores.*
- 6 *(D) Are for programs that are delivered by a single*
7 *comprehensive high school or community college.*
- 8 *(E) Are from a school district that has demonstrated a*
9 *commitment to continue or expand automotive education*
10 *programs.*

11 *(3) Receive and review reports of the use and impact of grants.*

12 ~~*(4) Approve applications for Automotive Technician Training*~~
13 ~~*Standards (ATTS) or National Automotive Technicians*~~
14 ~~*Education Foundation (NATEF) accreditation, or equivalent,*~~
15 ~~*and, if funds are available in the account, recommend that the*~~
16 ~~*chief award a grant to an applicant to complete the accreditation*~~
17 ~~*process.*~~

18 ~~*(5) Promote close ties between middle schools, high schools,*~~
19 ~~*and community colleges.*~~

20 ~~*(6) Support the development of new educational programs that*~~
21 ~~*emphasize automotive technology.*~~

22 *(e) In reviewing applications for grant funds, ensure that*
23 *applications meet the following criteria:*

24 *(1) Are for programs that are currently accredited by or*
25 *seeking to become accredited by the Automotive Technician*
26 *Training Standards (ATTS), the National Automotive Technicians*
27 *Education Foundation (NATEF), or their equivalent.*

28 *(2) Promote close ties between middle schools, high schools,*
29 *and community colleges.*

30 ~~*(d)*~~

31 *(f) Members of the advisory committee shall not receive per*
32 *diem or reimbursement for traveling or other expenses.*

33 9889.29. (a) A local school district of a secondary
34 educational institution *or a community college district* that
35 receives a grant under this article shall provide funds equal to the
36 amount of the grant awarded to the secondary educational
37 institution *or the community college.*

38 (b) The secondary educational institution shall use the grant
39 only for the following purposes:

1 (1) To obtain instructional materials and support and
2 equipment.

3 (2) To obtain or maintain ATTS, NATEF, or equivalent
4 accreditation.

5 (3) Faculty recruitment and development.

6 (4) Curriculum development and delivery.

7 ~~(e)~~

8 *(5) To support the development of new educational programs*
9 *that emphasize automotive technology.*

10 *(6) For other related purposes as identified by the advisory*
11 *committee.*

12 *(c) Community colleges may use grant awards to support*
13 *equipment updating and service, to include, but not to be limited*
14 *to, emissions testing software and equipment component*
15 *upgrades and calibration.*

16 *(d) Grant moneys shall be used to supplement and not replace*
17 *or supplant existing resources used by a local school or*
18 *community college district.*

19 9889.30. The bureau shall report to the Legislature biennially
20 on the grant program and shall include in the report the names of
21 the secondary educational institutions *and community colleges*
22 that were awarded a grant, the amount of each grant, the purposes
23 for which the funds were granted to each recipient, the number of
24 students involved in the recipient's program, the estimated
25 number of placements made into the automotive industry for the
26 previous two academic years, and any other information the
27 bureau considers relevant to the program.

28 9889.31. (a) The administrator of each public secondary
29 educational institution *or community college* receiving a grant
30 under this article shall submit a report to the bureau delineating
31 the amount of the grant it was awarded and the manner in which
32 it used those funds. The report shall include, but not be limited
33 to, the following information:

34 (1) The number of automotive technology students placed into
35 the University of California, the California State University
36 system, the California community college system, or private
37 post-secondary educational institutions during the previous
38 academic year.

39 (2) The expected enrollment in automotive technology courses
40 in the next academic year.

1 (3) *The estimated number of students who participated in the*
2 *program and who have found work in the automotive industry.*
3 (b) The administrator shall submit this report with the
4 application for a grant for the next academic year.
5 9889.32. It is the intent of the Legislature that state funding
6 for the grants awarded under this article be provided only from
7 the account to the extent that funds are available in that account
8 and that no other state funding be provided for those grants.

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